

The Renzi Report

VOL. 3 ISSUE 9

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2005

Your Direct Link to the News and Events from Our Nation's Capital and Rural Arizona

Dear Fellow Arizonan:

Last month was a busy, but productive time here in Washington, D.C. I was pleased to see the Northern Arizona Land Exchange and Verde River Basin Partnership Act pass the House of Representatives, and later signed into law by President George W. Bush. This is one of the most significant land exchanges in northern Arizona in the last 25 years. The bill exchanges private land within the Yavapai Ranch for Forest Service land in the northern portion of the state and establishes a water resource planning and management partnership. The bill will enhance local resource conservation and improve forest land management in northern Arizona as well as preserve and protect pristine areas within Yavapai Ranch for wildlife and recreation.

With just two weeks to complete our work for the year, Congress will be focused on completing a comprehensive border security measure to address the growing problem with illegal immigration. House Leadership has pledged to include my "Red Zone Defense" as an important component of the new border security plan.

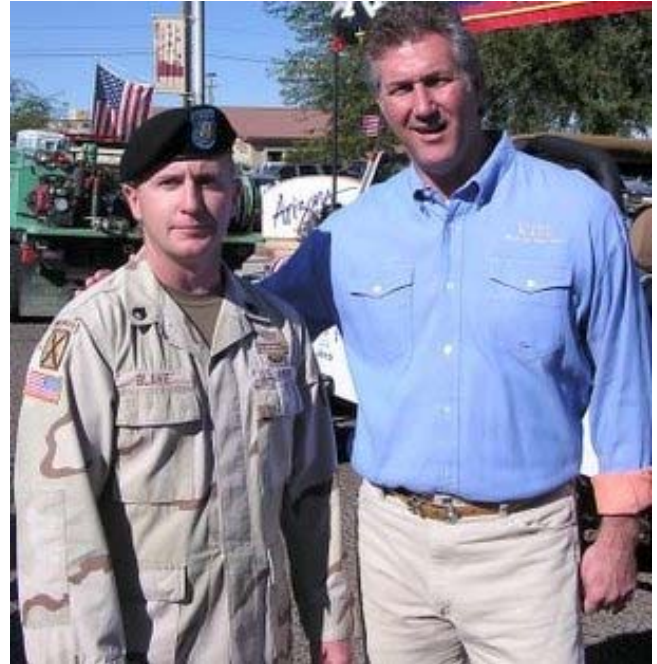
As always, feel free to tell your family members, friends and neighbors about the Renzi Report. You can sign up to receive this email and find additional information about developments in Congress at my website. Just click on the following link: <http://www.house.gov/renzi>.

If you have any questions or comments about this e-newsletter or anything else, please e-mail me at rick.renzi@mail.house.gov and I will get back to you as quickly as possible. I hope you find this Renzi Report informative. Thank you and may God Bless America.



Congressman Rick Renzi

If you no longer want to receive this newsletter, please send an email to rick.renzi1@mail.house.gov and type UNSUBSCRIBE.



Congressman Rick Renzi (AZ-1) meets with Sgt. Kevin Blake of the National Guard's 258th Engineering Division from Safford. Congressman Renzi and his father Major General Gene Renzi (ret.) presented Sgt. Blake with a flag flown over the U.S. Capitol in his honor.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Rural Arizona Legislative Update...

Native American Legislative Update...

Congressman Renzi's December Schedule:

Friday – DECEMBER 9, 2005 – PRESCOTT, AZ

9AM – Press Conference to Announce New Tools to Help Fight Meth use in Rural Arizona

2PM - Visit with American Cancer Quality of Life Center in Prescott, AZ.

Saturday – DECEMBER 10, 2005 – PAYSON, AZ

11AM - Payson Bill of Rights Ceremony

12:30PM – Cottonwood Press Conference to Announce New Tools to Help Fight Meth use in Rural Arizona

Sunday – DECEMBER 11, 2005 – TUBA CITY, AZ

Meeting with Navajo Veterans

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Rural Arizona Legislative Update

House Passes Northern Arizona Land Exchange and Verde River Basin Partnership Act

The House of Representatives last month passed the Northern Arizona Land Exchange and Verde River Basin Partnership Act (S.161) co-sponsored by Congressman Rick Renzi (AZ -1) and Senator John McCain. This legislation facilitates a land exchange in northern Arizona of private land within the Yavapai Ranch for Forest Service land in the northern portion of the state and establishes a water resource planning and management partnership. Congressman Renzi sponsored the House version of the bill and Senators McCain and Kyl sponsored Senate version. President Bush signed the measure into law at the end of November.

"This bill will provide an important boost to not only northern Arizona's economy, but also Flagstaff's economy," said Congressman Renzi. "The measure will provide the City of Flagstaff with the opportunity to acquire land to expand and improve Pulliam Airport. It will also enhance local resource conservation and improve forest land management in northern Arizona. It will preserve the pristine areas within Yavapai Ranch.

"This bill will also allow the City of Williams to acquire land for its well sites, water storage tanks and wastewater facility and drinking water treatment plants," said Congressman Renzi. "Until recently, the City of Williams relied completely on surface water supplies to service the community, however, surface water reservoirs in Williams are well below their needed capacity."

Renzi Secures \$750,000 for Pinal County Projects in Florence and Eloy

Congressman Rick Renzi (AZ-1) announced \$750,000 in new projects for Pinal County after the House of Representatives passed the Treasury, Transportation, Housing appropriations bill recently. Congressman Renzi secured \$500,000 for the Eloy Community Center in Eloy and \$250,000 to renovate and repair the 1891 Pinal County Courthouse.

"These funds coming to Eloy and Florence will help provide important services needed for the region and protect an important part of Pinal County's architectural heritage," said Congressman Renzi. "Eloy will now be able to move forward with their long awaited project to build a community center for area youth and seniors and the funds coming to Florence will help renovate and repair the historic 1891 Pinal County Courthouse."

Renzi Secures \$250,000 for Renewal Project in Downtown Globe

Congressman Rick Renzi (AZ-1) announced he was able to secure \$250,000 for downtown renewal in Globe, Arizona. The project was approved as part of the Treasury, Transportation, Housing appropriations bill which passed the House of Representatives on Friday.

"These funds will provide an important boost for Gila County and downtown Globe," said Congressman Renzi. "Downtown Globe is vital part of the economy and this money will revitalize this area. A renewed downtown will attract new businesses which will expand the town's revenue and tax base."

The Renzi Report

VOL. 3 ISSUE 9

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Your Direct Link to the News and Events from Our Nation's Capital and Rural Arizona

Rural Arizona Legislative Update page 2

Renzi Secures \$3.5 Million for Rio de Flag Project

Congressman Rick Renzi (AZ-1) secured \$3.5 million to fund the Rio de Flag project in Flagstaff as part of the Energy and Water Appropriations bill which passed the House of Representatives last month. The funds will be used for new bridges and improvements for the Rio de Flag drainage channel area in downtown Flagstaff. These funds are in addition to the \$3 million secured earlier this summer by Congressman Renzi as part of the comprehensive transportation plan passed in July.

“These funds, added to the previous funding secured in July, will provide an important boost to the project,” said Congressman Renzi. “Rio de Flag will improve the safety of downtown Flagstaff and will help protect the community against the threat of catastrophic floods.”

Renzi Secures \$500,000 for Embry-Riddle Aeronautics University in Prescott

Congressman Rick Renzi (AZ-1) secured \$500,000 to fund math and science education at Embry-Riddle Aeronautics University as part of the Science-State-Justice-Commerce funding bill which passed the House last month.

“This is great news for the Prescott area,” said Renzi. “Embry-Riddle Aeronautics University plays an important role in the local Prescott economy, and leads the nation with programs flight engineering, space physics and intelligence security related fields.”

Congressman Renzi Fights to Protect Private Property Rights for Americans

The House of Representatives recently passed a bill, H.R. 4128 - the Private Property Rights Protection Act of 2005, co-sponsored by Congressman Rick Renzi (AZ-1) to help protect the private property rights of all Americans.

“Freedom and private property in our nation will be forever intertwined, because you cannot have one without the other,” said Congressman Renzi. “One of the most disastrous consequences of this recent Supreme Court decision was the new threat to affordable housing for lower income Americans, or those living in rural areas in states like Arizona. America’s founding fathers would bristle at this greedy lunge for property by private entities. Our Constitution prohibits against actions like this in the takings clause of the Fifth Amendment.”

Specifically, the bill will enhance the penalty for states and localities that abuse their eminent domain power by denying those that commit such abuse all federal economic development funds for a period of two years. It will also allow those suffering injuries from a violation of the bill access to state or federal court to enforce its provisions. The bill does allow states and localities to have an opportunity to fix a violation before they lose any federal economic development funds, and also contains a refinement of the definition of “economic development.” Prior to this bill, there was no such definition.

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Arizona Native American Update

Congressman Renzi Meets with World Renowned Navajo Photographer Leroy DeJolie



Congressman Renzi met with world renowned Navajo photographer and artist LeRoy DeJolie recently. Mr. DeJolie was in Washington, D.C. to exhibit some of his photos as part of an exhibit at the Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian.

Renzi Bill to Improve Tribal Housing Passes Senate

The United States Senate this week passed a bill authored by Congressman Rick Renzi (AZ-1) to assist in stretching existing resources and creating funding flexibility for Native American housing. The bill (HR 797) makes three important changes to various existing housing statutes, including the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act (NAHSDA). The bill was passed by the House in April of 2005.

“This bill will help give Native Americans in rural Arizona, and across the nation, the tools they need to better utilize federal housing programs and plan for the future,” said Congressman Renzi. “I am especially pleased to see the YouthBuild program reinstituted to help teach life skills to at-risk youth. This program not only provides these young people with an opportunity to improve themselves, it allows them to assist their communities by building new housing for needy families.”

Congressman Renzi Secures \$200,000 for Tribal Law Enforcement Programs

Congressman Rick Renzi (AZ-1) secured \$200,000 in federal funds to boost Navajo and Apache Nations’ tribal law enforcement initiatives. The funds were secured as part of the Science, State, Justice, Commerce appropriations bill, which passed the House last month.

“Providing our law enforcement officers with the proper tools to safely protect their communities is vital to the Navajo and Apache people,” said Congressman Renzi. “These funds are needed to help pay for law enforcement essentials like new technologies to help investigate, respond and prevent crimes, as well as improve the overall criminal justice system for these areas. I look forward to working with local community leaders to ensure that the areas that need the increased attention of law enforcement receive it.”

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In Case You Missed It...

U.S. House OKs funds to renovate old courthouse

http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=15673639&BRD=1817&PAG=461&dept_id=222077&rfi=8

U.S. Border Patrol Agents Wear 'Made in Mexico' Uniforms

<http://www.americanchronicle.com/articles/viewArticle.asp?articleID=3886>

Huge Ariz. land swap OK'd

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/news/articles/1116vavapai.html>

Renzi calls for House to follow up on oil profit hearings

<http://phoenix.bizjournals.com/phoenix/stories/2005/11/07/daily48.html>

Backing for increased border fencing gains steam

<http://phoenix.bizjournals.com/phoenix/stories/2005/10/31/daily64.html>

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